## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Maeda et al.

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Title: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY AND NICKEL-METAL

HYDRIDE RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

Docket No.: 035576/275466

Customer No.: 00826

March 11, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT 37 CFR § 1.115

Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment before calculating the claim fee and amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.